

**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Medical, Dental & Nursing

**Item number:** 26/44/35

**Title:** 1st Australian Field Ambulance

February 1918



AWM4-26/44/35

**CONFIDENTIAL.**

ORIGINAL.  
~~DUPLICATE.~~  
~~TRIPLICATE.~~

Australian Imperial Force.

**WAR DIARY**

OF

*1<sup>st</sup> Australian Field Ambulance*

FOR

*February* 1918.

Signature of Officer compiling.....

Signature of Officer Commanding.....

*[Signature]*  
LT.-COL., A.A.M.C.,  
C.O. 1st FIELD AMBULANCE A.I.F.

WAR DIARY

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II, and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

OR  
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RAVELSBERG	1/2/18		at the beginning of February, 1918, the Unit was located at the Divisional Rest Station, RAVELSBERG (Sheet 28, S16C 5.3); with the exception of a party of 24 Other Ranks temporarily attached to No. 1 Aust. Casualty Clearing Station, OUTERSTEENE, for duty.	SB
"	3/2/18	5 pm	Party of 24 Other Ranks detached for duty to 1 <sup>st</sup> Aust. Cas. Clearing Station rejoined Unit.	SB
"	7/2/18		Captain H. SYMONDS rejoined from detachment to Aust. Corps Medical Officers School, BAILLEUL.	SB
"	8/2/18		Captain E. P. BARBOUR rejoined Unit from detachment to A.I.F. Admin. Headquarters, LONDON.	SB
"	9/2/18		Captain W. J. E. PHILLIPS rejoined Unit from hospital.	SB
"	10/2/18		Captain R. J. HAYNES detached to 4 <sup>th</sup> Aust. Inf. Batten, as R.M.O. temporarily	SB
"	"		Captain W. J. E. PHILLIPS detached to 5 <sup>th</sup> Aust. Inf. Batten, as R.M.O. temporarily	SB
"	"		Captain J. I. CONNOR detached to attend course at Aust. Corps Medical Officers School.	SB
"	15/2/18		Captain R. P. YOUNG and 3 Other Ranks detached for duty with 1 <sup>st</sup> Aust. Machine Gun School, TILQUES	SB
"	18/2/18		Captain J. I. CONNOR rejoined Unit from detachment to Aust. Corps Medical Officers School.	SB
"	19/2/18		Captain W. J. E. PHILLIPS rejoined from detachment to 5 <sup>th</sup> Aust. Inf. Battalion.	SB
"	20/2/18		Major H. B. LEE, D.S.O., M.C., detached for duty with 1 <sup>st</sup> Aust. Div. Headquarters (A.D.M.S. Office)	SB



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices					
			<p><u>STRENGTH. - PERSONNEL.</u> At the beginning of February, 1918, the Strength of Unit was:-</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>Off.</td> <td>OR.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>226</td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">1 Interpreter, Belgian Mission, attached. 13 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Div. Supply Column " " 39 A.A.M.C. Details, Supernumerary to Establishment.</p> <p>Total <u>10 279.</u></p>	Off.	OR.	10	226	<p><i>[Signature]</i></p>	
Off.	OR.								
10	226								
			<p>At the end of February, the Strength was:-</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>Off.</td> <td>OR.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>236</td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">1 Interpreter, Belgian Mission, attached 13 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Div. Supply Column " 10 A.A.M.C. Details, Supernumerary to Establishment.</p> <p>Total <u>10 260</u></p>	Off.	OR.	10	236	<p><i>[Signature]</i></p>	
Off.	OR.								
10	236								
			<p>During the month of February:-</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>1 Other Rank was transferred to Unit</td> <td rowspan="3" style="font-size: 3em; vertical-align: middle;">}</td> <td rowspan="3" style="vertical-align: middle;">Total 5 Other Ranks "joined" Unit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 Other Ranks rejoined Unit from Hospital</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 Other Rank rejoined from Base Depot.</td> </tr> </table>	1 Other Rank was transferred to Unit	}	Total 5 Other Ranks "joined" Unit	3 Other Ranks rejoined Unit from Hospital	1 Other Rank rejoined from Base Depot.	<p><i>[Signature]</i></p>
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p><u>STRENGTH (continued)</u></p> <p>2 Other Ranks were transferred from Unit            3 " " " evacuated sick            1 " " (Warrant Officer POOLE W.) was transferred                to A.I.F. Admin. H.Q.; LONDON, for transport duty                to Australia</p> <p style="text-align: right;">} Total 6 Other Ranks "left" Unit.</p>	
			<p><u>A.A.M.C. Details.</u></p> <p>In accordance with instructions contained in A.I.F. Order No. 1000 dated 4/12/17,            the following personnel of this Ambulance detached to Units for War duties            were disposed of during the month.</p>	
			<p>11 rejoined this Unit            9 were transferred to the Infantry.            2 " " " " Engineers            1 was " " " Artillery.</p>	
			<p>The A.A.M.C. Details (6 Other Ranks) attached to the Australian General Base Depot,            were on 8/2/18, placed under the administration of the S.M.O., Aust. Base Depot,            and not on the strength of this Unit as <sup>formerly</sup> provided for in A.I.F. Order No. 584 dated 13/4/17            (Auth. D.A.G., A.I.F. 51/36 of 8/2/18).</p>	

or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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SICK.

This Unit attended to the collection of sick from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Aust. Infantry Brigade during the month. Severe cases were evacuated to No. 53, No. 2, and No. 2 Australian Casualty Clearing Stations on daily rotations. Slight cases were treated in the Div. Rest Station conducted by this Unit, or sent to the Australian Corps Rest Station (No. 1 Aust. C.C.S., OUTERSTEENE) or other Divisional Rest Stations. The main disease prevailing in the Rest Station of this Unit was Scabies, this being the authorised Scabies Station for 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Division.

The numbers of sick dealt with by this Unit during February are as follows:-

No. in hospital at beginning of month	No. admitted to Id. Amb. & Rest Stn.		No. evacuated to C.C.S.		No. transferred to Corp Rest Stn. & other Div. Rest Stns.		No. returned to duty.		No. remaining in hospital at end of month.	
	Off	O.R.	Off	O.R.	Off	O.R.	Scabies	Other Diseases		
-	75	15	505 *	12	111	3	100	156 75	231	138

\*The total No. of patients treated in the Div. Rest Station during the month was:-

<u>Scabies</u>	<u>Other Diseases</u>	<u>Total</u>
226	172	398
Other Ranks.		

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p><u>HONORS AND REWARDS.</u></p> <p>The Belgian Croix de Guerre was awarded to No. 17 Sgt. WOOSTER E.D. of this Unit.</p> <p><u>RECREATIONAL TRAINING.</u></p> <p><u>Football</u> — Rugby, Soccer and Australian Rules — was played a good deal during the month. Games were arranged with other Units and were keenly contested.</p> <p>Teams of Rugby and Australian Rules took part in the 1st Aust. Divisional competitions.</p> <p>The Rugby Team was granted leave to visit ROVEN from 21<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> of month, and a match was played there against No. 1 Australian General Hospital, and won 6 to NIL.</p> <p>The Unit was also represented in the Eng.-of- War competition of 1st Aust. Div.</p> <p>Concerts and a Luchre Party were also arranged for the entertainment of patients and personnel.</p> <p>A grand fancy dress ball was held by the personnel during the month and proved a novel and very enjoyable entertainment.</p>	<p>JB</p> <p>JB</p>
			<p style="text-align: right;">J. H. Curran L. Col.</p>	



## WAR DIARY

OF

1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Field Ambulance

FOR

February 1918

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

Subject.

1. Movement Order for 'C' Section from  
RAVELSBERG to KEMMEL.

## APPENDIX I

Movement Order for 'C' Section, 1<sup>st</sup> Aus. Field Amb.

by Lieut-Col. E.T. BRENNAN, M.C.

Commanding 1<sup>st</sup> Australian Field Ambulance.

1 <sup>ST</sup> AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE.	
No.	
Date	27/2/18.

In accordance with A.D.M.S. Order No. 32 the following re-arrangement of this Unit will take place.

- I. 'C' Section complete with personnel, equipment and horse transport will proceed to KEMMEL and take over Main Dressing Station from 13<sup>th</sup> Aus. Field Amb.
- II. 'C' Section will move off at 1.30 pm. on 28<sup>th</sup> and march to KEMMEL via DRANOUTRE.
- III. Main Dressing Station will be taken over on morning of 1<sup>st</sup> March - time to be arranged mutually between O.C. 'C' Section and C.O. 13<sup>th</sup> Field Amb.
- IV. Dress. Full Marching Order with 1 blanket and waterproof sheet. Extra blanket and Officers Kits will be carried on Ambulance Wagon.
- V. Rations. Unexpended portion of day's rations will be carried on the man. 24 hours rations will be carried on transport.
- VI. Mechanical Transport of 'C' Section consisting of two Sunbeam Cars and one Motor Cycle will move under separate orders, and report to O.C. 'C' Section at KEMMEL on the evening of 28<sup>th</sup> inst.
- VII. O.C. 'C' Section will arrange in conjunction with the C.O. 13<sup>th</sup> Field Amb. for the evacuation of sick from the battalions of 10<sup>th</sup> Aust. Division in the Reserve Area on the morning of 1<sup>st</sup> March.

2 APPENDIX I

VIII. In the absence of 2 officers of 'C' Section, Captain BLACKALL and Captain SYMONDS are detailed to be temporarily attached to 'C' Section.

IX. 2 G.S. and 1 Limbered Wagons will return to RAVELSBERG empty.

Copies to

- ① O.C. 'C' Section
- ② Q.M.
- ③ Warrant Officer
- ④ Warrant Officer, Transport
- ⑤ War Diary

*[Signature]*

LT.-COL., A.A.M.C.,  
C.O. 1st FIELD AMBULANCE A.I.F.